REMARKS

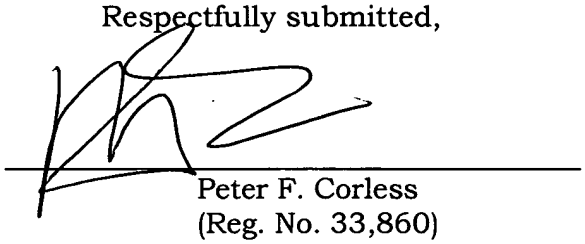
Applicants respectfully request that the subject application be preliminarily amended as provided in the foregoing amendment prior to calculation of the filing fees. Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to consider the foregoing amended claims.

The claims were amended to clearly define the scope of variables R_1, R_2 and Ar in claims 9 and 19. Support for the amendment to claims 9 and 19 can be found in claim 3.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in a condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

Applicants believe that additional fees are not required for consideration of the within Preliminary Amendment. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 17, 2001 By: 

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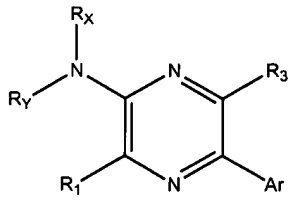
APPENDIX

9. A compound of the Formula:



Formula A

wherein:

R_1 is selected from H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, halogen, CN, C_{1-4} haloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), and S(O)$_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl);

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), and -S(O)$_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), haloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, –XR_A and Y;

R_X and R_Y are the same or different and are independently selected straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl groups having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms, which may contain one or more double or triple bonds, each of which may be further substituted with one or more substituent(s) independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), : hydrogen and straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl groups consisting of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, each of which alkyl groups may contain one or more double or triple bonds, and may be further substituted with one or more substituent(s) selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogen, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NHC(O)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)C(=O)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NHS(O)$_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), Z, and phenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with substituents independently chosen from C1-4 alkoxy, C1-4 alkyl, halogen, CF3, OCF3, OCHF2, OH, and CN; [and]

Ar is phenyl, mono-, di-, or tri-substituted with R_C, or

Ar is selected from the group consisting of:

naphthyl, pyridyl, pyridonyl, pyrimidinyl, and thiophenyl, each of which is unsubstituted or mono-, di-, or tri-substituted with R_C;

with the proviso that if Ar is phenyl, phenyl substituted with halogen, napthyl, or naphthyl substituted with halogen, then the compounds where R_3 is hydrogen are excluded;

R_A and R_B, which may be the same or different, are independently selected at each occurrence from the group consisting of: hydrogen and straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl groups consisting of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, which may contain one or more double or triple bonds, each of which may be further substituted with one or more substituent(s) selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogen, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NHC(O)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)C(=O)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NHS(O)$_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), and Z;

R_C is independently selected at each occurrence from the group consisting of halogen, cyano, haloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxy, amino, and C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with 0-2 R_D, C_{2-6} alkenyl substituted with 0-2 R_D, C_{1-4} alkynyl substituted with 0-2 R_D, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl substituted with 0-2 R_D, (C_{3-7} cycloalkyl)C_{1-4} alkyl substituted with 0-2 R_D, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl) substituted with 0-2 R_D, -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl) substituted with 0-2 R_D, -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl) each independently substituted with 0-2 R_D, -XR_A, and Y;

R_D is independently selected at each occurrence the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, -O(C_{1-4}alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4}alkyl), -N(C_{1-4}alkyl)(C_{1-4}alkyl), morpholino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, thiomorpholino, piperazino, 4-hydroxypiperidino, -S(O)$_n$(C_{1-4}alkyl), trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, CO(C_{1-4}alkyl), CONH(C_{1-4}alkyl), CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)(C_{1-4}alkyl), -XR_A, and Y;

X is independently selected at each occurrence from the group consisting of -CH_2-, -CHR_B-, -O-, -C(=O)-, -C(=O)O-, -S(O)$_n$-, -NH-, -NR_B-, -C(=O)NH-, -C(=O)NR_B-, -S(O)$_n$NH-, -S(O)$_n$$NR_B$-, -OC(=S)S-, -NHC(=O)-, -NR_BC(=O)-, -NHS(O)$_n$-, -OSiH_n(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_{2-n}$-, and –NR_BS(O)$_n$-;

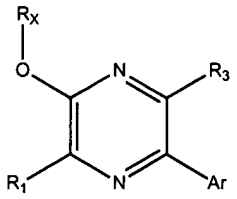
Y and Z is independently selected at each occurrence from the group consisting of: 3- to 7-membered carbocyclic and heterocyclic groups, which are saturated, unsaturated, or aromatic, which may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halogen,

haloalkyl, oxo, hydroxy, amino, C_{1-4} alkyl, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), and -$S(O)_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), and

said 3- to 7-membered heterocyclic groups contain one or more heteroatom(s) selected from N, O, and S, with the point of attachment being either carbon or nitrogen; and

n is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1, and 2.

19. A compound of the Formula:



Formula B

wherein:

R_X is chosen from the group consisting of:

straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl groups, including (cycloalkyl)alkyl groups, having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms, which groups may contain one or more double or triple bonds, each of which groups may be further substituted with one or more substituent(s) independently selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogen, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NHC(O)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)C(=O)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -$NHS(O)_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), -$S(O)_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), -$S(O)_n$NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -$S(O)_n$N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), Z, and phenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with substituents independently chosen from C1-4 alkoxy, C1-4 alkyl, halogen, CF3, OCF3, OCHF2, OH, and CN; [and]

R_1 is selected from H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, halogen, CN, C_{1-4} haloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), and $S(O)_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl);

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), and -$S(O)_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), haloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, $-XR_A$ and Y;

Ar is phenyl, mono-, di-, or tri-substituted with R_C, or

Ar is selected from the group consisting of:

naphthyl, pyridyl, pyridonyl, pyrimidinyl, and thiophenyl, each of which is unsubstituted or mono-, di-, or tri-substituted with R_C;

with the proviso that if Ar is phenyl, phenyl substituted with halogen, napthyl, or naphthyl substituted with halogen, then the compounds where R_3 is hydrogen are excluded;

R_A and R_B, which may be the same or different, are independently selected at each occurrence from the group consisting of: hydrogen and straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl groups consisting of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, which may contain one or more double or triple bonds, each of which may be further substituted with one or more substituent(s) selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogen, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NHC(O)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)C(=O)(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NHS(O)$_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -S(O)$_n$N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), and Z;

R_C is independently selected at each occurrence from the group consisting of halogen, cyano, haloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, hydroxy, amino, and C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with 0-2 R_D, C_{2-6} alkenyl substituted with 0-2 R_D, C_{1-4} alkynyl substituted with 0-2 R_D, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl substituted with 0-2 R_D, (C_{3-7} cycloalkyl)C_{1-4} alkyl substituted with 0-2 R_D, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl) substituted with 0-2 R_D, -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl) substituted with 0-2 R_D, -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl) each independently substituted with 0-2 R_D, -XR_A, and Y;

R_D is independently selected at each occurrence the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, -O(C_{1-4}alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4}alkyl), -N(C_{1-4}alkyl)(C_{1-4}alkyl), morpholino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, thiomorpholino, piperazino, 4-hydroxypiperidino, -S(O)$_n$(C_{1-4}alkyl), trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, CO(C_{1-4}alkyl), CONH(C_{1-4}alkyl), CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)(C_{1-4}alkyl), -XR_A, and Y;

X is independently selected at each occurrence from the group consisting of -CH_2-, -CHR_B-, -O-, -C(=O)-, -C(=O)O-, -S(O)$_n$-, -NH-, -NR_B-, -C(=O)NH-, -C(=O)NR_B-, -S(O)$_n$NH-, -S(O)$_n$$NR_B$-, -OC(=S)S-, -NHC(=O)-, -NR_BC(=O)-, -NHS(O)$_n$-, -OSiH_n(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_{2-n}$-, and –NR_BS(O)$_n$-;

Y and Z is independently selected at each occurrence from the group consisting of: 3- to 7-membered carbocyclic and heterocyclic groups, which are saturated, unsaturated, or aromatic, which may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halogen,

haloalkyl, oxo, hydroxy, amino, C_{1-4} alkyl, -O(C_{1-4} alkyl), -NH(C_{1-4} alkyl), -N(C_{1-4} alkyl)(C_{1-4} alkyl), and -$S(O)_n$(C_{1-4} alkyl), and

said 3- to 7-membered heterocyclic groups contain one or more heteroatom(s) selected from N, O, and S, with the point of attachment being either carbon or nitrogen; and

n is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1, and 2.